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ENG 2009-001: Faith, Survival, Progress

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English 2009—001
Faith, Survival, and Progress
Fall, 2002

Bruce Guernsey
CH 3605
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Office Hours:
Wed: 1:00-3:30

Texts:

A Farewell to Arms, Hemingway
The Lexus and the Olive Tree (selections), Friedman
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, Douglass
One World of Literature, Lim, ed.
The Sixth Day, Chedid
The Sorrow of War, Ninh
Zorba the Greek, Kazantzakis

Films:

Network
Zorba the Greek

General Comments:

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to great literature that deals with the themes of faith, survival, and progress—three very large topics that we will try to make specific through a sharing of the lives of various characters in the readings and videos that we'll experience together. An additional purpose of this course is to teach you to read carefully and to express yourself clearly.

To fulfill these goals we will study literature from all over the world with a concentration on work from the 20th century.

Requirements:

1. class participation
2. daily quizzes
3. two papers, 3-5 pages each, on assigned topics
4. a comprehensive final exam

Your final grade will be determined by your overall performance in the class. To do well, be curious, ask questions, speculate. Don't be afraid to be wrong.

Readings:

I will make assignments on a class-by-class basis. There is no obvious chronological or thematic order in the texts and films listed above. Each overlaps with the other, as do the defining issues of the course. We will let the direction of our discussion help determine what we'll be doing next class.

In other words, be here!